

News Release

STATE WARNS AMUSEMENT BUSINESSES TO CHECK INSURANCE

Agriculture Inspector Uncovers Bogus Policy

FRANKFORT, Ky. (July 15, 2005) – Carnival and circus owners and others involved in the amusement industry are being warned to verify the status of insurance coverage, according to the Kentucky Department of Agriculture (KDA) and the Kentucky Office of Insurance (KOI).

During a routine inspection, a KDA inspector received a certificate of insurance from a Covington amusement company that was later determined to be bogus. The certificate indicated coverage at Lloyd's of London through Richard Brooks and Associates of River Forest, Ill. Lloyd's has confirmed that the certificate was not valid and Richard Brooks and Associates has no authority to act on behalf of the underwriters at Lloyd's. Richard Brooks and Associates is not licensed to do business in Kentucky.

Lloyd's is asking that any business owner with liability policy documentation obtained directly or indirectly from Richard Brooks and Associates contact Wayne Wertzer at Lloyd's America Inc. immediately to verify the status of that coverage. The declarations page of the policy should be faxed to Wertzer at (212) 382-4070. The phone number for questions is (212) 382-4092.

Lloyd's officials have confirmed that other states also are investigating this matter.

The Kentucky Department of Agriculture inspects amusement rides and other amusement devices such as ball crawls, inflatable rides and mechanical bulls. Confirming insurance coverage is part of the inspection process.